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Flower Land," etc.

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Pages, and includes a Sketch Map

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Customs and Superstitions, combined

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JAPANESE POSTAGE STAMPS.
WAR OVERPRINTS.

In the course of his periodical article in
the Daily Telegraph Mr. Fred J. Melville
writes:—

Week after week brings fresh additions to
the list of war provisional stamps. The
Pacific Islands are proving the most prolific
in new issues and almost the philatelic
market a complete set of "G.R.I." overprints
on former German colonial stamps would re-
present a small fortune in value. I have
already noted that the stamps of the Mar-
shall Islands have been overprinted similarly
to the German New Guinea set. But until
this week there has been no news of what
the Japanese did in the stamp-issuing line
during their occupation of these islands
prior to the transfer of the administration
to the Government of the Australian Com-
monwealth. Messrs. J. E. Smyth, Ltd., of
Sydney, have received a set of Marshall
Islands stamps overprinted in red with an
oval inscribed in Japanese characters. The
stamps were obtained in Jaluit, and include
the denominations 3, 5, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, and
80 pfennigs.

The Japanese appear to have been very
rigid in their censorship, and up to the middle
of February a correspondent in Tokyo knew
nothing of the issue of any overprinted
stamps for the Japanese postal services at
Tinian, the Marianas, Marshall, or Caroline
Islands. The Japanese stamp collectors' journal
Yasaku, however, illustrates in its
February number a field postmark used by
the field post office of the Japanese troops
in the attack on Tsingtao. It is of the usual
shape now in use in all post offices in Japan,
but neither name of place nor the time is
given. The style of mark resembles the
barred circles used by the field post offices
with the Indian Expeditionary Force. In
the upper segment the characters read
"Daisen" (Third), and in the lower "Yasen-
kyoku" (Field Post Office). The date is
given in Arabic figures.

The Japanese authorities are said to have
in preparation a commemorative stamp of
special design to be issued at the time of the
coronation of the Emperor next year. The
last two or three years have witnessed a
considerable development in the popularity
of stamp collecting in Japan, and there is
now a philatelic society, the Yokuken, and a
monthly magazine, the Yokuken (the "Stamp
Lover"), so called in compliment to the Eng-
lish magazine of that name, published in
Tokyo, and the Nippon and Philatelic
Journal of Japan, published monthly in Yoko-
hama.

THE TORPEDOING OF THE
"GLENARTNEY."

The steamship Glenartney, 5,201 tons, of
Glasgow, bound from Bangkok to London
and Liverpool with 8,000 tons of rice, was
torpedoed at about 10.35 a.m. on March 18,
when about 10 miles south-east of Beachy
Head and near the Royal Sovereign light-
ship. Of the crew of 40 Capt. J. Craig and
38 officers and men were brought into New-
haven Harbour in the afternoon. The Chief
officer of the Glenartney stated that when the
vessel was struck he was in his cabin writing
up his log, and the force of the explosion flung
him clear and threw him to the floor. He
rushed up on deck and assisted in lowering
the lifeboats. One of the boats, owing to the
strong list of the steamship, capsized with
three of the crew. One of these, an appren-
tice, aged 19, was drowned. A Chinese was
only brought round by artificial respiration,
and the third, an Englishman, got one of his
hands jammed between the boat and the
ship. The crew saw their ship sink in about
half an hour from the time she was struck.
They also saw the periscope of a submarine
some distance off. The men were in their
boats for about two hours before being
picked up. The Glenartney was attacked
without any warning and in defiance of the
customary legal or humanitarian principles.
The ship was struck in No. 5 hold, and the
force of the explosion blew up the hatches
of Nos. 4 and 5 holds, sending rice and water
high into the air. A member of the crew
said: "I was on deck at the time. Happening
to glance seaward on the starboard side, I
distinctly saw a torpedo almost upon us.
I shouted to the helmsman to turn to star-
board, but he was too late, for the torpedo
struck us on the starboard quarter near the
after hold. A few more feet and we should
have cleared it."

WIRELESS IN SINGAPORE.

At a meeting of the Legislative Council of
the Straits Settlements last week
The Colonial Engineer, in proposing: "That
the Council approve a vote of \$68,000 to
complete the erection of a wireless installa-
tion for commercial use at Singapore," said
the station would cost \$121,500. Expended
on the work in 1914 was \$39,503 and pro-
vided for in the 1915 estimates \$13,500, a
total of \$53,003, which subtracted from the
\$121,500 left \$68,497, say \$68,400, the amount
provided for. The motion originally stand-
ing in his name, providing for a sum of
\$104,355, including the subvention of the
creation of wireless installations at Singa-
pore and Penang, but the estimate for the
Penang station was only an approximate one
and it had been thought better to introduce
the Penang estimate at a later date. The
Singapore station would be ready for use by
the end of July.

Sir Evelyn Ellis: Is the whole of the

apparatus here?

The Colonial Engineer: Yes.

Mr. Saunders seconded the motion, which

was carried.

Replying to Mr. Darbishire, the Colonial

Engineer said that the original sum provided

for was based on no estimate at all. They

had no information whatever on the subject.

TOMMY'S MARCHING FEATS.

British infantry have the reputation for
excelling the infantry of all other armies in
the rate of marching and staying powers.
Fifteen miles a day was regarded a few years
ago as a good average for a large column;
twenty-five for a small body of seasoned
men. In the grand autumn manoeuvres of
1909, when a test was made of British march-
ing ability, the 1st Infantry Brigade covered
thirty miles in one day and the 2nd and 3rd
Infantry Brigades, hampered by artillery,
covered thirty miles. The 5th and 6th Infantry
Brigades covered thirty-one miles, the 1st
Devonshire Regiment thirty-five miles, the
1st Grenadier Guards thirty-five miles, and
the 1st Cheshire Regiment thirty-three
miles. The Service equipment carried on
this occasion averaged 60 lb. in weight.

MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA
(LIMITED).SATISFACTORY RESULT IN AN
ABNORMAL YEAR.INDIA'S WHEAT TRADE: THE RECENT
PROCLAMATION.

The 23rd Annual General Meeting of the
shareholders of this bank was held on March
20th at Winchester House, Old Broad-street,
Mr. R. J. Black (the chairman) presiding.
The Chief Manager (Mr. P. Mould) read
the notice convening the meeting and also
the report of the auditors.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen,—Before

proceeding with the ordinary business of the
meeting I wish to refer to the sad loss we
recently sustained in the death of our old
friend and colleague Mr. Maitland. He was,
as you know, very closely interested in the
affairs of this bank from its earliest days; his
broadminded, practical common-sense and
long business experience were most helpful
in the control and management of our affairs,
and his cheery, optimistic personality en-
dured him to all. His death will be mourned
by a very large circle of friends and
acquaintances.

THE WAR AND EMERGENCY LEGISLATION.

When we last met we had in review a year
of considerable difficulty and anxiety, but we
little thought that within a few months the
little meeting of 1913 would be dis-
solved by the momentous happenings in
early August last year. The almost over-
whelming problems with which finance and
commerce were suddenly faced are too fresh
in the memories of all to require recalling;
but rather may we congratulate ourselves
upon the relief obtained by the emergency
legislation which set the wheel of credit
revolving again. The measures taken were
on very broad, comprehensive, and states-
manlike lines. His measures, or rather
handling of such a situation, would have been
worse than useless, as, paradoxical though it
may appear, the greater the risk taken, the
less the ultimate loss was likely to be. For-
tunately, the advisers of the Government
approached the complex question with which
they were confronted with boldness and
determination, and our thanks are due to
them for the very prompt and effective man-
ner in which relief was given, confidence
restored, and the credit of the country saved.

THE BALANCE-SHEET: FINANCIAL POSITION OF
THE BANK.

Considering the dislocation of trade in
countries in which we are most interested
the changes in our balance-sheet as compared
with the previous year are surprisingly small.
The summations on both sides of the account
in 1913 were \$3,187,487 10s. 7d., and in 1914
\$2,901,552 10s. 7d., a shrinkage of only \$285,935
16s. 8d. The most noticeable items are, on
the debit side of the account, a reduction of
\$235,000 in loans payable, which is reflected
on the other side by heading "Loans
Receivable and Advances" of \$214,055 10s. 10d.;
you will notice we have been able to bring
up our reserve account to a round half-million,
upon which, I think, we may congratulate
ourselves. (Hear, hear.) Bills payable have
increased by \$291,085 6s. 1d. On turning to
the credit side of the account, we see that
cash, bullion and securities amount to \$2,000,
29s. 1d., showing an increase in the strength
of our financial position of \$219,625 3s.
10d., which under the present exceptional
circumstances, is very necessary, and I think
may be considered entirely satisfactory. (Hear, hear.) I may mention that the in-
crease of \$113,000 under the heading
"Consols and Securities Guaranteed by
the British Government" is due to part
payments on account of the sub-
sidiary interest we considered it our duty to
take in the War Loan. (Hear, hear.) Bills
receivable—in other words, bills of exchange
—show little change. Freehold banking
premises, after making provision for depre-
ciation, show an increase of \$14,434 6s. 11d.,
due to the final payments on account of our
new premises in Gracechurch-street.

THE NET PROFIT.

Referring now to the profit and loss
account, you will find the net profit for 1914
is \$1,016,119 18s. 8d. as against \$1,111,499 7s. 11d.
in 1913, a falling off of \$94,379 9s. 3d., which
is, however, more apparent than real, as
prudence required a much larger apportion-
ment than usual to bad and doubtful accounts,
but I may say the so far as it is largely
possible to foresee, we have made ample pro-
vision for unforeseen contingencies, which
in times such as these it would be foolish to
disregard. (Hear, hear.) To the net profit
I have just mentioned, we have to add the
sum brought forward, \$34,604 8s. 5d. from
1913, which gives a grand total of \$1,050,724
7s. 11d. for distribution. After making the
allocations mentioned in the report, and re-
commending a dividend of 4 per cent. for the
half-year on the "A" and "B" shares, there
remains to carry forward to 1915 the sum of
\$47,224 10s. 7d. I think on the whole we may
be satisfied with the result of our work
during such an abnormal and exceptional
year. (Hear, hear.)

As to the future, it would be dangerous to

predict, if not impossible. A great deal

depends on the duration of the war, but it is

well to bear in mind that the purchasing

power of Europe at any rate will be greatly

reduced after this year, and the expenditure

of capital which is unproductive and there-
fore a period of recuperation that may
not make for activity in trade. The recent
proclamation regarding the export of wheat
from India is a new departure, and we await
with considerable anxiety more precise and
definite information as to how it is proposed
to finance the trade. It would be a very
serious blow to the Indian Exchange banks
and others if the financing of this important
volume of trade was diverted from its usual
channels, and it is to be hoped that Govern-
ment do not contemplate any such action,
which would endeavour to disturb as little as
possible the usual methods of finance.

HOME AND FOREIGN STAFF AND THE WAR.

It will be gratifying to you to hear that

our staff has very loyally responded to their
country's call to arms. (Hear, hear.) Over25 per cent. of the home staff and four mem-
bers of the foreign staff are serving with the
colours. We have granted full pay to the
unmarried men and half pay to the unmarried
while on service, and will keep their appoint-
ments open for them. (Hear, hear.) In the
case of the foreign staff we have been unable
to sanction all the applications received, for
the simple reason that it is comparatively
small, the members hold very responsible
positions, and it is impossible to fill vacancies
with qualified men. Likewise at home, many
more wished to go than we could spare.
My sympathies are entirely with those who
subordinated their wishes to the necessities
of the bank's service. We have strained
every effort to permit as many to go as
possible, and to those who remain I can only
say there is, under certain circumstances,
patriotism at home as well as at the front.

(Hear, hear.) The finance and commerce
of the country must be carried on, and
although it may not be attended by
the pomp and circumstance of battle, still
those who stay behind are doing their share
for their country's good. It is with very
great pleasure we have again been able to
grant a bonus to the staff. It is richly de-
served, as for obvious reasons the work has
been exceptionally heavy, and I take this
opportunity of saying how much I and my
colleagues have appreciated the cheerful and
heartily response that has been given by all
to the heavy calls that have been made upon
them. The order for the employment of
Indian troops in the fighting line in Europe
gave great satisfaction in India, and has
done much to promote a loyal interest in the
present struggle among the people. Many
of the Indian soldiers have distinguished
themselves by acts of bravery and daring,
which have been quickly and fittingly
recognized. The experience the officers and
men have gained of our fairness and
earnestness and of the power at their King's
command will all help to make for the
peace of India when they return to their
homes. (Cheers.)

In conclusion, I may interest you to hear
that after being over a year in our new
premises I am glad to be able to say they
have proved satisfactory in every way. We
were at once able to let all the floors not
required, and the undertaking generally has
fully confirmed our expectations. (Hear, hear.)
I will now formally propose the following
resolution:—That the report of the direc-
tors, with the audited statement of accounts
and balance-sheet at December 31, 1914, pre-
sented to this meeting, be and the same are
hereby received, approved, and adopted; and
that a dividend on the "A" and "B" shares of
this bank of 4 per cent. free of income-tax,
for the six months ended December 31, 1914
(making 8 per cent. for the year), as recom-
mended in the report, be and the same is
hereby confirmed. I will ask Sir David Yule
to second that resolution, but before putting it
to the meeting I shall be glad to answer
any questions that may be put.

Sir David Yule seconded the resolution,

which was carried.

ANTI-BRITISH PROPAGANDA

IN CHINA.

Replying to Sir John Rees' question
regarding the circulation in China, of
anti-British pamphlets, Sir Edward
Grey's announcement that the matter was
one which the British Government could
not expect that a friendly China could
interfere in, will be received with grati-
fication in Chinese circles. It is a friend-
ly appreciation of the very difficult
position in which China as a neutral
Power is placed. It is the more gratifying
to the Chinese in that, it is also an
official recognition by the British Govern-
ment of the efforts of the Chinese
Authorities to maintain a consistently
correct and proper attitude in its delicate
relations to the different friendly Powers
with whom she is in treaty relations.
From inquiries we have made, we learn
that some time ago when the matter first
came under the notice of the Chinese
Government, telegraphic instructions
were sent to the Provincial Authorities
to investigate the truth of the
reports, and further, enjoining upon
them the duty strictly to discountenance
the circulation of partisan and non-
neutral literature. Fresh instructions
will, we understand, be sent out once
more to remind the Authorities not to
disregard the necessity of continuing to
maintain a firmly neutral and impartial
attitude respecting the matter.—Peking
Gazette.

OPIUM SALE AT CALCUTTA.

The fourth opium sale was held at the
Government sale godown, Charnock
Place, Calcutta, on the 31st ult. There
was a fairly large attendance. There
were 840 chests of Bonares opium
offered. The highest price realised was
Rs. 1,605 and the lowest Rs. 1,000, giving
an average of Rs. 1,600-05 per chest. The
sale proceeds amounted to Rs. 13,44,023,
against Rs. 13,23,300, in March.

"BUCHANAN-DEWAR."

REASONS FOR THE WHISKY

COMBINATION.

An arrangement for closer and per-
manent association between Messrs.
James Buchanan & Co., and Messrs. John
Dewar and Sons has been explained to a
representative of The Times by directors
of the two firms.

Mr. Harrison and Mr. Lundy, of
Messrs. Buchanan & Co., said that the
two companies would maintain their
separate existence, and the separate
boards of directors would remain as they
were at present. There would, however,
be a new joint board composed of mem-
bers of both concerns, which would con-
trol the general commercial policy of the
two firms. The interests of the two con-
panies, though in the past they have been
competitive, were really identical all over
the world. There would be no issue of
capital to the public, and the amalgama-
tion would involve no change in the
whiskies sold by the separate firms.

Sir Thomas Dewar said that one object
of the amalgamation was to meet the
heavy taxation now in force and the in-
creased cost of raw materials. A stop-
page of serious competition would help
the firms to bear the burdens which had
been placed upon them. The character of
the separate businesses would remain as
in the past and the employees would not
be affected by the change. Both Messrs.
Dewar's and Messrs. Buchanan & Co.
were free-trade firms. They had no
pecuniary interest in retail shops. The
public were their customers. They gave
the best value they could and advertised
the act of that quality. They must con-
tinue to advertise.

I have heard such lots of Tommy
incidents and tales, says a lady cor-
respondent of the Singapore Free Press
writing from Home. I think one of the
nicest is one of them after he had seen
the King. He wrote home, "I've seen
the King, and he said, 'I wish to God
the war was over.' What the King said
you know was 'I hope by the grace of
God the war will not be unduly
prolonged.' And they've made up such
nice addition to the Litany: 'From
Duchesses and Lios, good Lord, deliver
us.' And they always speak of 'When
I came ashore from the trenches.'"

LOCAL SPORT.

HONGKONG TENNIS
TOURNAMENT.

The following are the results of the
games which were played yesterday:—
Handicap Doubles—The brothers
Hancock (over 30) beat Crisp and Hat-
terly Smith (over 15), 6-1, 6-3. The
winners have to meet Cary and Faichnie
in the semi-final.

Mixed Doubles—Mrs. Winslow and
Nisbet (over 30/2) beat Miss Long and
Green (over 4/6), 6-1, 6-2. The winners
pass into the final.

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF
CLUB.

RUNNING POOL, APRIL, 1915.

FANLING.

Class A: Handicaps of 10 or under:—

* Mr. T. S. Forrest 76 Scr. 76

Capt. C. Campbell 76 Scr. 76

* Mr. C. D. Martyn 87-5 82

* Winner. 35 entries.

Class B: Handicaps of 11 or over:—

* Mr. G. R. Sayer 93-15 77

Mr. C. N. M. Hamilton 95-14 81

* Mr. G. C. Moxon 106-10 90

* Winner. 99 entries.

THE HONGKONG VOLUNTEERS.

ORDERS BY LIEUT.-COL. A. CHAPMAN, V.D.

SMOKING CONCERT, 3TH MAY, 1915.

1.—Members intending to be present at the

concert to be given by the Corps

and Reserves on 8th inst. are request-

ed to give their names to the O. C.

their Company or Section not later

than to-night.

2.—This will now take place on Sunday,

9th inst. Details regarding time of

assembly, etc., will be issued later.

3.—Pte. R. A. C. North joined the Corps

on 1st May, 1915; allotted Corps No.

1814, and posted to Scouts Company.

4

CHIEF OFFICER'S CLAIM. PRACTICE AND CUSTOM.

LUMBAGO AND A GAME OF POKER.

A CASE of considerable interest to local shipping was heard at the Summary Court yesterday by Mr. Justice Hazeld (Puisne Judge) when G. W. Ellis, a master mariner, sued the *Phraung* steamship Company, 20, Des Voeux Road. The claim was for \$472.50, being as to \$247.50 for 33 days' salary, and also as to \$225, balance thereof for damages for wrongful dismissal.

Mr. Gardiner was for plaintiff, and Mr. Shenton represented defendant Company.

Mr. Gardiner said that plaintiff was originally engaged as second officer of the steamship *Phraung* about July 2nd and in October he was promoted to Chief Officer, his salary being increased from \$175 to \$225. The *Phraung* journeyed between here and Bangkok and as Chief Officer he acted in that capacity up to the 19th March last. Then, on the way from Bangkok he was taken rather seriously ill with lumbago. Plaintiff told the Captain of his condition and the Captain advised him to have medical treatment on his arrival in Hongkong and that he should remain there until he was medically fit to rejoin the ship.

Mr. Shenton—That is in dispute of course, as to the Captain's advice.

Mr. Gardiner added that on arrival in Hongkong plaintiff left the ship, signing off the articles etc., in the usual way. The second officer was promoted to plaintiff's position until he should be able to return. Plaintiff left some of his belongings aboard, including some valuable nautical instruments, and the same day, March 17th, Dr. Marriott attended him for lumbago. Plaintiff then took up his residence at the Grand Hotel, where he underwent the treatment prescribed for him. About April 5th he had made such a recovery and felt so much better that he saw Mr. Kew, the Chief Superintendent of the Company, and reported to him that he would be able to return to the ship when next she reached Hongkong. Unfortunately the plaintiff's condition became worse again and he was laid up again for several days. While he was laid up Mr. Wilson, the second officer, who was occupying his position, came to him from the Captain and plaintiff told him that he was not well enough to rejoin the ship on that occasion but he hoped to do so when the ship came in again. The *Phraung* left on April 8th and returned only the other day. On April 14th, plaintiff met Mr. Kew, who then informed him that the Company would no longer require his services as he had not reported to the Captain or to the Company when the ship was last in port. Plaintiff subsequently saw a man named Ng Kee Chee, secretary to the Company, and asked the reason for his dismissal. He was informed that the sole reason was that he had not reported himself. Plaintiff said that he had, as a matter of fact, reported to the Chief Officer, Mr. Wilson, that his condition was such that he could not rejoin the ship. At the time plaintiff asked for payment, but was refused, and similar applications had also been refused subsequently.

Evidence was given by plaintiff and Dr. Marriott bearing out Mr. Gardiner's statement. The latter said that he ordered plaintiff to go to bed for at least four days, and he appeared to be well again after that.

Cross-examined by Mr. Shenton plaintiff admitted that the lumbago was "not continuous" by any means.

For instance, before you saw Mr. Kew and told him you were going back to the ship you also saw Mr. Kew at the cinema?—I do not recollect it.

And I put it to you that you had a conversation with Mr. Kew on that occasion?—I do not recollect it.

Have you not also been to Macao?—I have.

And stopped there for one night?—Yes. And I suppose you had a friendly game of poker?—Yes.

Then your lumbago did not interfere with your game of poker?—It does not affect that sort of thing.

Could you deal out a hand of cards with lumbago about you?—If you had had lumbago you would not talk like that; you don't know what it is.

Now, a few days after you had signed off articles did not you apply for a Chief Officership on either the *Rubi* or *Zafro*?—I did not.

Mr. Shenton then handed in plaintiff's card and then asked him if he did not apply to Mr. Gordon for a position on either of the two ships. Witness replied in the negative; neither had he put his name forward to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire for a position.

Plaintiff explained that he had heard that the two ships were about to leave for home and he called on Mr. Gordon

for information with regard to them. Plaintiff told Mr. Gordon that he was ashore sick and if, in the course of a month or so he had not recovered—he would like to take a trip home if the opportunity occurred.

Plaintiff said that he was paid in full when he signed off articles but the understanding was that he should be paid in full while he was on shore.

Do you mean to say that the Company agreed to pay two Chief Officers?—That is the custom on the China coast.

Mr. Gardiner—That is the point. Any decent Company would do the same thing.

Plaintiff—It is done by Butterfield and Swire, China Navigation, the Douglas Co., and all the other companies.

Harry Flashman, master of the s.s. *Phraung* said that on the voyage from Bangkok plaintiff, who had not been very well previously, said he proposed to stay ashore in Hongkong. Witness was not aware that plaintiff expected his wages or medical expenses when he was ashore. He did not see how plaintiff could claim his salary when ashore. When he signed off the legal effect was that he had finished with the ship and had no more claim upon her. He had, however, promised to take plaintiff back on to the ship.

Cross-examined by Mr. Gardiner, witness said that shipping companies always looked after their employees when they were ashore sick; that was the practice. With regard to plaintiff he understood that he would go ashore and not claim medical fees or wages, but it was the custom of the China coast for an employee's wages to be paid, along with all medical fees, when he was ashore ill.

Had the Chief Officer come back to the ship he would have told the Company that he was legally entitled to his wages. The hearing was adjourned until May 11th.

BOATMAN STONED TO DEATH. WHAT LITTLE THINGS LED TO.

A number of children were some time ago playing a game of "rolling coins" (which is frequently played by Chinese children in the public streets of Hongkong) on the beach at Stanley, when an old woman came along and accidentally tripped over the stone which the children were utilising for their game. The woman became angry, and scolded one of the boys. A man who was near by apparently became annoyed with the old woman, and in turn scolded her. Another fisherman approached and remonstrated with the man, and thereupon a quarrel ensued. It is alleged that the man who took the old woman's part was attacked by two other men, relatives of the boy who was originally scolded, and was hit with heavy stones. As the result of his injuries he died, and the two men who were alleged to have assaulted him were arrested.

They appeared at the Criminal Sessions yesterday, before the Chief Justice (Sir Wm. Rees Davies, K.C.), charged with manslaughter. The jury was composed of the following:—Messrs. P. Blag (foreman), D. S. Eddie, A. J. Florin, W. Davis, W. C. Kelly, W. Taylor, and H. Overy.

The Attorney-General (Mr. J. H. Kemp) prosecuted, and Mr. F. C. Jenkin (instructed by Mr. Otto Keng Sing) defended.

The case was adjourned.

THE "MINNESOTA" RE-LOADED.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha, agents in Hongkong of the Great Northern Steamship Co., inform us that cable information came from Japan on the 1st inst. to the effect that the str. *Minnesota* was set afloat on the night of the 30th ult., and immediately proceeded to Nagasaki for repairs.

Fire broke out recently in the bunkers of the Hamburg-America cargo steamer *Endre* lying at Sabaga. There was serious danger at first of the fire spreading to the ship and it was decided to flood the bunkers. This effectively extinguished the fire, but a good deal of damage was done to the cargo in one of the holds. The goods were transferred to another Hamburg-America boat in the harbour.

Some of the observations of soldiers when hit are very humorous. "What gets over me," one who had been shot in the foot remarked, "is how it ain't done more damage to my boot!" Rusk would have appreciated the gratitude of a man of the Lancashire Fusiliers, of whom a sergeant of the 5th Lancs wrote: "He had two ghastly wounds in his breast, and I thought he was booked through. He was quietly reading a little edition of Rusk's 'Crown of Wild Olive,' and seemed to be enjoying it immensely. As I chatted with him for a few minutes he told me that this little book had been his companion all through—and that when he died he wanted it to be buried with him. His end came next day, and we buried the book with him."

CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA. AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA.

BUSINESS IN THE EAST AND THE WAR.

The 51st Ordinary General Meeting of the shareholders of this company was held on March 31st on the bank's premises, 33, Bishopsgate-street, under the presidency of Sir Montagu Cornish Turner, the chairman.

Mr. T. H. Whitehead (Joint manager) having read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen,—I propose that the directors' report and balance-sheet and profit and loss account be taken as read. ("Agreed.") Gentlemen, the circumstances under which we meet to-day, in the midst of a war the most gigantic in extent and most costly in expenditure of life and treasure in the history of the world, render it inappropriate, and certainly unprofitable, for me to occupy your attention to detail with the ordinary details of trade and commerce in the East as affecting the operations of this bank. Suffice it to say that the outbreak of the war, which shook to its very foundations practically every money market in the world, brought with it an immense amount of anxiety, strain, stress, and concern to all connected with the business of finance and banking, and, as a natural consequence, to your directors, and especially to the managers at the head office. Thanks to the energetic, statesman-like, and comprehensive action on the part of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in conjunction with the Governor of the Bank of England, and in consultation with the chief financial experts in this City, anything like a panic in London was avoided, and in a very short time banking resumed its normal course though naturally to a modified extent. Our grateful thanks are due—not only those of the exchange banks, but of all banks in this City—to Mr. Lloyd George and the Governor of the Bank of England. So much for the past.

THE OUTLOOK.

As regards the future, it would be folly on my part to prophesy what may happen in the next few months or how the events of the future may affect the prosperity of this bank. All I need say is this—that we know the rice crop in Burma is good, that the wheat crop in India is excellent, that the tea industry in India and Ceylon is most prosperous, that the jute mills in Bengal are likely to show good results in the present year, and that the rubber industry is in a healthy condition. So far all is to the good, and, in fact, this is the setback that we know of in the great scarcity of tonnage and the difficulty of the carriage of goods from the East to the West; this is common to all ports in the East, and I think we may say, to all ports in the West. When and to what extent this scarcity of tonnage will be removed it is impossible to foresee. No one can say what may happen until the war comes to an end.

THE STAFF AND HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES.

It will gratify the shareholders to know that the staff of this bank have responded so splendidly to the call of their King and country for service in the field. Of the men eligible at our head office no less than 40 per cent. have already joined His Majesty's forces and are either on active service or at home. They have joined his Majesty's forces at the first call, and the foreign staff—all that we could spare—have accepted commissions or are serving in the ranks in India or elsewhere. In all cases your directors have with the greatest pleasure consented to pay the unmarried men half their salaries and the married men their full salaries during the continuance of the war as long as they serve in the Army, and they will, of course, benefit by the bonuses that are granted. More would have joined had we been able to spare them, but you will understand that 40 per cent. from our staff is a very considerable proportion. It is with very deep regret I have to make the announcement that two of our men have already fallen on the field of battle. Mr. J. W. H. Greig, of the Calcutta staff, accepted a commission in the 25th Punjab Cavalry at the end of last month. He was sent for service on the frontier, and was killed in action on the 26th inst.—barely a month on active service. Mr. James Ian Innes, of the London Scottish, was also killed in the trenches on the 2nd of January last. Both men were excellent characters; were keen soldiers, and I venture to say, are a loss to their country and to us. I take this opportunity of expressing, on your behalf and on behalf of the directors, our deep sympathy with their parents and relatives on the loss they have sustained.

THE REPORT; THE BONUS TO THE STAFF.

Now, turning to the report, I would first refer to the payment of bonus of 10 per cent. to the staff. I feel sure that this will meet with the full approval of the shareholders. As you can understand, the staff that have remained at home have in many cases had to do double duty. They have had extra work for a considerable time, and many have been called to the front. As to the superior staff, the managers who are present here, Mr. Preston and others, I can only say that the amount of their service they have rendered to us. Their devotion to work at a time when we all had an unusual amount of anxiety to face was only such as I could have expected, but such as, I venture to say, is not often seen in the case of men in similar positions. The managers worked at this office night and day and on Saturdays and Sundays for a considerable period. I think it right and only fair to mention this although I am sure they would be the last to wish me to do so.

THE PREMISES ACCOUNT.

We have recommended that the sum of \$25,000 should be written off premises account. This account may seem to be one that requires constant replenishment, but naturally, as long as the business of the bank increases, so long as it incumbent on us to provide fitting accommodation for our staff and for the business they have to transact, and I am bound to say that I see no possibility of curtailing this account as long as our business expands as it does. We open at many new places, where we have to provide buildings and accommodation for our staff. We do our best to rent suitable accommodation, but in many places it is impossible to do so.

A shareholder—What is the tenure of this building?

The Chairman—It is freehold. We sometimes have to buy the ground and build, but I think that in every case where we buy the ground is freehold.

PROVISION FOR SPECIAL CONTINGENCIES.

Then, as regards the recommendation that \$150,000 should be set aside for special contingencies, I think it necessary to explain to

the shareholders that although we have provided fully and amply for all depreciation in securities and for all known bad and doubtful debts, yet there are still certain contingencies the result of which cannot be ascertained until the end of the war. These are contingencies arising from the negotiation of documents relating to continental trade, etc., details of which I could not give you without detaining you too long. We cannot say to what extent it will be necessary to draw upon this special fund, otherwise we should have provided for it already, but the directors are strongly of opinion that it is in the best interests of the bank to provide for all possible contingencies, especially when our financial position—viewed as possible to do so. This I mention is a safe and wise policy and will in future, if not now, be appreciated by the shareholders of the bank. With these few remarks I beg to move, "That the report now presented, together with the balance-sheet and profit and loss account, be approved and adopted." (Cheers.) I will ask Sir Alfred Dent to second that.

Sir Alfred Dent, K.C.M.G.—I have much pleasure in seconding the Chairman's proposition.

The Chairman—If any shareholders wish to make any remarks or to ask any questions I will invite them to do so now.

No questions being asked, the Chairman put the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

The Chairman—I have now to propose "That a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, for the half-year ended December 31st last, free of income-tax, be now declared, payable on and after the 7th prox. declared, Mr. W. Foot Mitchell seconded the motion, which was unanimously adopted.

Sir Henry S. Cunningham, K.C.I.E.—I have now a resolution to propose which I am sure will command the assent of every one here. It is for the re-election of our friend, Sir Montagu Turner, who retires from office, but offers himself for re-election. How much you owe to him I think the report shows, and how much his fellow-directors and those who are about him owe to him can only be known to themselves. (Cheers, hear.) Suffice it to say that he commands—as I am sure he does—ours—our most hearty esteem and affection. (Cheers.)

Mr. Lewis A. Wallace seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

The Chairman—Gentlemen, I thank you for re-electing me a director, and I have now to propose, "That Mr. Lewis Alexander Wallace, who retires by rotation, be re-elected a director."

The Right Hon. Lord George Hamilton, O.C.S.I., seconded the motion, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Henry B. Henley proposed—"That Mr. David Charles Wilson and Mr. Henry Crompton Knight Stileman be re-elected auditors for the ensuing year."

Sir Charles Armstrong seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously.

Mr. Henley—Although the business is concluded I think we ought not to part without moving "That the best thanks of the shareholders be given to the directors and staff for their successful management of the bank." We have heard from our Chairman his eulogy of the staff, and I think a great deal of it comes back and is reflected on the directors. I have much pleasure in moving this resolution.

Sir Charles Armstrong seconded the vote, which was unanimously accorded.

The Chairman—On behalf of the directors and staff I beg to thank the shareholders for their grateful resolution and their vote of thanks to us. I can assure you that the vote that it would be impossible for the directors to show you such good results had they not the loyal co-operation of the staff and especially of the managers at the head office. I hope that next year, if all goes well, we may, perhaps, be able to offer you something better than we have done to-day. (Cheers.)

The proceedings then terminated.

ORGANISATION OF A CHINESE VOLUNTEER FORCE.

Owing to the presence of robbers and local brigands in the provinces, the Government, says a Peking contemporary, realises the necessity for the re-organisation of Pao-wei-tuan, or Volunteer Forces in various localities in order to effectively suppress the lawless elements. With the exception of Szechuan and Fukien, where the Volunteer force is already in existence, the Government will instruct the formation of such organisations. As suitable men are lacking to command the forces in the provinces, the Government thinks it advisable that schools for the training of leaders of the Volunteer force should be established, before taking any definite steps. Some days ago a despatch from the Governor of Fengtien was received by the Government, stating that with a view to training competent officers for the Volunteer force of that province, he has organised a school in the capital of the province. Each district of the province, the Governor added, will be entitled to send two men to the said school to be trained as officers of the Volunteer force of the district from which they have been sent and the expenditures involved in it will be shared by the various districts. The Governor further presented a set of regulations governing the school, and requesting the Government's opinion regarding the organisation of the school. In reply the Government heartily endorsed his plan regarding the establishment of the school and admitted the importance of such a measure. A circular telegram will be despatched to the provinces from the Government, informing the Governors of other provinces of what the Governor of Fengtien has done and instructing them to follow the latter's example.

FORMOSAN SUGAR.

Formosan sugar imported into Japan last month amounted to about 2,000,000 piculs, and about 600,000 piculs are expected between now and the end of May. When the quantity required for consumption in Formosa amounting to 150,000 piculs, is deducted, there will be 1,850,000 piculs to be brought in this year. The quantity of Java new season sugar purchased by the Japanese was reported to be about 200,000 piculs, says the *Asahi*. Subsequently the Mitsui, Yamao, Suzuki Shoten have gradually extended their purchases. When all these are counted, including the parcels to be shipped in August next, they will total about 2,000,000 piculs. It is expected that 1,000,000 piculs will be imported before the end of the year.

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Ex "LAOMEDON,"

A NEW STOCK OF

LACE - CURTAINS

BRITISH MANUFACTURE
OF THE BEST QUALITY.

THESE GOODS ARE SPECIALLY MADE
FOR US AND WILL

WASH AND WEAR WELL.

4 Yards 4½ and 5 Yards Long.

EFFECTIVE DESIGNS IN

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From \$5.50 to \$25.00 Per Pair.

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AT PRICES WHICH COMPARE FAVOURABLY WITH THOSE OF ANY
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BEFORE LEAVING FOR HOME

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INCLUDING THE MOVEMENTS OF THE LOCAL MARKETS.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.
FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

The Company's Steamships

"YATHING" and "NAMSANG" having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by them are hereby informed that their Goods will be delivered from alongside. Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining on board after 4 P.M. the 4th inst. will be landed at Consignees' risk and expense. No Fire Insurance will be effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., General Managers. Hongkong, 3rd May, 1915. [49]

S.S. "AMAZONE."
COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

NOTICE

CONSIGNEES of Cargo from London in connection with above Steamer are hereby informed that their Goods with the exception of Opium, Treasure and Valuable are being landed and stored at their risks into the Godowns and/or other Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained immediately after landing. Optional Cargo will be forwarded on unless intimation is received from the Consignees before Noon To-day requesting it to be landed here. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by the Undersigned. Goods remaining unclaimed after the 10th inst. at Noon, will be subject to rent and landing charges. All Claims must be sent in to me on or before the 14th inst., or they will not be recognized. All damaged packages will be examined on 10th inst. at 10 A.M. No Fire Insurance has been effected. P. THOMAS, Agent. Hongkong, 3rd May, 1915. [12]

NOTICE

FROM this date Mr. O. I. ELLIS ceases to Sign our Firm per Procuration. E. D. SASSOON & Co. Hongkong, 1st May, 1915. [552]

THE HONGKONG LAND RECLAMATION CO., LTD.

UNTIL further Notice Mr. EDGAR BRUCE SHEPHERD has been appointed Acting Secretary. By Order of the Board of Directors. MOWBRAY S. NORTHCOTE, Secretary. Hongkong, 29th April, 1915. [550]

G. R.

R. M. A. NOUD, DECEASED.

ALL MONIES due to, and Claims against, the above-named Estate should be sent in to H. B. M. CONWAY, General, Canton, before the 31st day of May, 1915. CECIL KIBBE, Acting Consul-General. Canton, 30th April, 1915. [554]

G. R.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

IT IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that SEALED TENDERS in Duplicate which should be clearly marked "TENDER FOR LEASE OF PART OF OLD SUPREME COURT BUILDING" will be received at the Colonial Secretary's Office until Noon of MONDAY, the 10th day of May, 1915, for the Lease of Certain Rooms on the Ground and First Floors of Old Supreme Court Building from 15th May to 31st December, 1915, subject to certain conditions which can be ascertained at the Office of the Director of Public Works. Each Tender must be accompanied by a receipt to the effect that the Tenderer has deposited in the Colonial Treasury a sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) as a pledge of the bona fides of his offer, which sum shall be forfeited to the Crown if the Tenderer refuses to carry out his Tender and comply with the above-mentioned conditions should the Tender be accepted. Form of Tender and further particulars can be obtained from the Office of the Director of Public Works. The Government does not bind itself to accept the highest or any Tender. W. CHATHAM, Director of Public Works. Hongkong, 30th April, 1915. [555]

G. R.

NOTICE

ANY EUROPEAN desiring to leave the Colony should apply in writing for permission to do so to the PROVOST MARSHAL, Head Quarters Office, at least 48 hours before the intended hour of departure, giving name, nationality, age, sex, height, complexion and occupation of the applicant, and stating the name of the steamer or other vessel or the hour of the train by which the applicant wishes to leave. Applicants should apply in person for their passes to the PROVOST MARSHAL at Head Quarters Office between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily. Hongkong 26th January, 1915. [207]

G. R.

NOTICE

ALL Persons applying to the PROVOST MARSHAL for Passes are requested in future to apply between the hours of 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. and 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. daily. Hongkong, 16th February, 1915. [322]

PUBLIC COMPANIES

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LTD.
NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTY-FOURTH ORDINARY MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Undersigned on MONDAY, the 10th May, 1915, at 11.30 A.M. The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 25th April to the 10th May, 1915, both days inclusive. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., General Agents. Hongkong, 20th April, 1915. [527]

HONGKONG TRAMWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the COLONIAL (Hongkong) REGISTER of the Company will be CLOSED from SATURDAY, 1st May, 1915, until SATURDAY, 29th May, 1915, both days inclusive. SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 26th April, 1915. [543]

THE HONGKONG ICE CO., LTD.

APPLICATION has been made to the General Managers to issue to CHOR YAU KUN duplicate Certificate for 10 Shares in the above Company upon the statement that the Original Certificate

No. 3050/3051—10 Shares

HAS BEEN LOST.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that if within 30 days from date hereof no claim or representation in respect of such Original Certificate is made to the General Managers they will proceed to deal with such application for a duplicate. JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Ltd., General Managers. Hongkong, 26th April, 1915. [545]

HONGKONG CLUB

NOTICE

AN EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the Members of the HONGKONG CLUB will be held in the Club House on MONDAY, 10th May, 1915, at 5.15 P.M.

Business set forth in the Notice posted in the Hall of the Club.

By Order,

E. DES VŒUX, Secretary.

Hongkong, 29th April, 1915. [140]

A Vendre aux enchères publiques deux Usines à décolorer le paddy ainsi que Cholor (Cochine) et autres machines, matériel et outillage appartenant aux Sociétés "RIZERIE ORIENT" et "RIZERIE UNION".

La Rizerie "Orient" outillée avec un matériel "Douglas et Grant" entièrement neuf peut produire environ 500 tonnes de riz blanc par 24 heures.

La Rizerie "Union" outillée partie avec un matériel "Douglas et Grant" en bon état et partie avec un matériel "Schule" en excellent état d'entretien peut produire environ 300 tonnes de riz blanc par 24 heures.

Il existe un matériel flottant comprenant une chaudière 33 jonques et 8 sumps dont la cession pourra être consentie à prix d'estimation aux adjudicataires des Rizeries.

A défaut d'entente, ce matériel sera vendu aux enchères.

La vente n'aura lieu que si les offres atteignent \$550,000 de Saigon pour la Rizerie "Orient" et \$450,000 pour la Rizerie "Union".

Les offres et les demandes de renseignements sont reçues à l'Etude de Maître GIGON-PAPIN notaire à Saigon (Cochinchine française). Code A. R. C. 6th édition.

Adresse Télégraphique GENDREAU Saigon.

WANTED.

AN ENGLISH NURSE to look after Two Young Children. Apply—"NURSE" Care of "Daily Press" Office. Hongkong, 28th April, 1915. [547]

YOKOHAMA.

BLUFF HOTEL.

No. 2, BLUFF.

HEALTHY LOCATION AND BEAUTIFUL VIEW.

EXCELLENT CUISINE AND HOME COMFORT.

MODERATE TERMS. [546]

FRENCH LESSONS

G. MOUSSON,

15, MORRISON HILL ROAD. [544]

FOR SALE.

FOREIGN POSTAGE STAMPS ALBUMS, and other

PHILATELIC GOODS,

at Prices to suit any Buyer. GRACA & CO. (Caine Road, No. 11A. Hongkong, 1st April, 1915. [435]

HOUSES TO LET.

TO LET.

A HOUSE in TORRES BUILDINGS, Kimberley Road, Kowloon. Apply to—SPANISH DOMINICAN PROCUATION. Hongkong, 16th April, 1915. [501]

TO LET.

A HOUSE at Observatory Villa, Kowloon. Apply to—ARRATON V. APCAR & Co. Hongkong, 16th March, 1915. [333]

TO LET.

GODOWN, No. 94, Praya East. Apply to—KWONG SANG HONG, Ltd., No. 248, Des Vaux Road Central. Hongkong, 16th February, 1915. [305]

TO LET—AT THE PEAK.

No. 2, STEWART TERRACE, Furnished and newly done up. Apply to—H. E. POLLOCK, Prince's Building. Hongkong, 20th January, 1915. [53]

TO LET.

A HOUSE in Kaitford Terrace Kowloon. Apply to—THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd. Hongkong, 1st March, 1915. [45]

TO LET.

FLATS in Nathan Road, Kowloon. A FLAT in Humphrey's Buildings, Kowloon. PENNYBREW, Nathan Road, Kowloon, 6-Roomed House with Tennis Court, 1 and 2, MINDEN VILLAS, Kowloon, 5-Roomed House with Tennis Court. FOUR-ROOMED HOUSES in Humphrey's Avenue, Gordon Terrace and Salisbury Avenue, Kowloon. Apply to—HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE Co., Ltd., Alexander Buildings. Hongkong, 20th April, 1915. [230]

TO LET.

HOUSES in CLIFTON GARDENS, Conduit Road. OFFICES, facing the Harbour between the Hongkong Club and Post Office. 58, THE PEAK, "THE RETREAT" 21, WONG-NEI-CHONG ROAD. GODOWNS, New Praya, Kennedy Town. GODOWNS, at Wanchai Road. Apply to—THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd. Hongkong, 1st April, 1915. [38]

TO LET.

OFFICES in St. George's BUILDING Second Floor, Overlooking Harbour immediate possession. Apply to—SHEWAN, TOMES & Co. Hongkong, 3rd December, 1914. [59]

TO LET.

THE GROUND FLOOR of No. 8, DES VŒUX ROAD CENTRAL, occupied by Madame Gains, etc. Apply to—DAVID SASSOON & Co., Ltd. Hongkong, 10th February, 1915. [272]

QUEEN'S BUILDING.

TO LET, the South-West portion of the FIRST FLOOR, including Treasury on Ground Floor, lately in occupation of the German Bank. GODOWN, No. 9, Ice House Street. Apply to—THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY Co., Ltd. Hongkong, 1st March, 1915. [35]

TO LET.

IN ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS, VERY CONVENIENT OFFICES AND ROOMS. Including a Fine Commodious Suite. Apply to—SECRETARY, A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd. Hongkong, 23rd October, 1914. [36]

TO LET.

"BISHOP'S LODGE SOUTH" No. 11, THE PEAK, Unfurnished, 5 Rooms. No. 1, CAMEBON VILLAS, No. 61, THE PEAK, Furnished. Immediate possession. No. 3, DES VŒUX VILLAS, 52, Mount Kellett, The Peak (Furnished or Unfurnished). No. 25, BELLILLO TERRACE, with entrance on Conduit Road. No. 27, BELLILLO TERRACE, with entrance in Conduit Road. In very good order. 3 ROOMS, suitable for Offices, 1st Floor, Queen's Road Central. "WESTWARD HO" Bonham Road. "ROSEBERRY" No. 124, THE PEAK, Unfurnished (8 Rooms), from 1st May, 1915. "MERION" No. 9, THE PEAK, Unfurnished (6 Rooms). ROOMS in BEACONSFIELD and 65, ELGIN TERRACE. "ROGATE" Austin Road, Kowloon. No. 2, DES VŒUX VILLAS, 51, PEAK (Unfurnished). ROOMS, suitable for Offices, on the First Floor of No. 3, Duddell Street. No. 59, THE PEAK (CAMEBON VILLAS). Apply to—LINTHARD & DAVIS, 2nd Floor, Alexander Buildings. Hongkong, 4th May, 1915. [43]

INTIMATION

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

ESTABLISHED 1841.

ERATED WATER MANUFACTURERS

FORMAZONE.

A REFRESHING, INVIGORATING and PALATABLE drink particularly suited for Tennis and Bathing Parties.

PINTS \$1 PER DOZ.

SPLITS 60 CTS. " "

PYERIS.

Chemically an exact reproduction of a well-known German spring, at had the price. Blends Perfectly with Spirits, especially Whisky. Once try a Whisky Pyeris and you will ask for it again.

PRICES:—

\$0.85 PER DOZ. PINTS.

\$0.50 " " SPLITS.

STONE GINGER BEER.

The only fermented Stone Ginger Beer in the Far East. The real charm of Stone Ginger Beer is the flavour produced by partial fermentation; without this no Stone Ginger Beer can be said to be genuine.

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The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, MAY 4th, 1915.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

Our Peking Correspondent sends us a summary of the reply made by the Chinese Government to what has been represented as the final draft of the Japanese demands. The reply was delivered to the Japanese Minister with the intimation that it represented the maximum concessions which the Chinese Government is prepared to make, and since it is a reply which is disappointing to the Japanese Government in several important respects, it will naturally give rise to some uneasiness as to what the next move will be.

Notwithstanding the reports of Japanese military and naval preparations which have been appearing in Northern papers for weeks past, we cannot believe that any military action on Japan's part is a possibility of the immediate future. The final settlement of Japan's claims in Shantung must necessarily be postponed till the end of the war. We gather that the position now is that Japan would be willing to consider the retrocession of Kiaochow, on condition that Tsingtao be opened as a treaty port and a large Japanese settlement established there, and that Japan controls the railway, Customs and Post Office, and also retains the Government buildings. We interpret that part of the telegram we publish to-day bearing on this question to mean that China will only agree to recognise the transfer to Japan of the German rights in Shantung on condition that all these rights will then be reverted by Japan to China; and we suppose the Chinese argument would be that Japan is sufficiently compensated by the concessions made to her in Manchuria and Mongolia, and elsewhere. Another feature of the reply which is very disappointing to Japan is China's insistence on the demands affecting the province of Fukien being dealt with separately. Japan is seeking the right to build railways, work mines, and to construct harbour works in the Province of Fukien, and in case foreign capital is required in this

province Japan demands to be first consulted. It is a clear negation of the Open Door policy, and obviously Japan can do nothing to enforce her demands in this respect, without giving serious offence to all the Powers concerned in the trade and commerce of China. It is impossible to believe that Japan, who is constantly proclaiming an earnest desire to maintain peace in the Far East, is likely to be goaded by her disappointment with China's reply into any hasty military action. She has obtained in Manchuria and Mongolian concessions of considerable value which will enable her to consolidate and develop in those regions the important interests she already possesses. It is true Japan has not obtained China's assent to all her demands, even for that region. China is unwilling to grant to Japanese subjects, for instance, the right to lease or own land in South Manchuria and Eastern Mongolia for erecting buildings for the purpose of trade and manufacture or for farming, unless the Japanese subjects who avail themselves of such privileges are prepared to submit to Chinese jurisdiction. China's attitude throughout the negotiations has been governed by a desire to safeguard her sovereignty and to protect the common interests of all the Powers in China, and in that she certainly has had the moral support and sympathy of the world. The many questions asked in the British Imperial Parliament, and the public discussion of the demands in the Press of the United States must have clearly indicated to Japan that, notwithstanding the repeated assurances of her statesmen to the contrary, the view is widely held that many of the demands which Japan made on the Chinese Government are incompatible with the objects defined in the Anglo-Japanese Treaty, and that they do in fact menace the territorial integrity and independence of China and the principle of the open door and equal opportunity for the trade and commerce of all nations in China. There has been a curious reluctance on the part of the Governments concerned to take the public into their confidence by publishing officially the text of the demands, but now that these demands have been thoroughly discussed and revised, and China has returned what is represented as her final answer, no good reason for reticence any longer exists. Certainly the world will look to Japan to furnish very clear reasons for pressing China to alter her decision.

A mail for Europe via Siberia closes to-day at 11 a.m.

A Fong, the well-known photographer of Queen's Road Central, has taken a number of good photographs of the Special Police Reserve at drill.

The weekly return of communicable diseases notified in the Colony shows that there were four cases of plague and one case of enteric fever, all being Chinese. Three of the plague cases were fatal.

Messrs. W. R. Loxley & Co., prosecuted several Chinese firms at the Magistracy yesterday, alleging infringement of one of the firm's trade-marks on singlets. Mr. Bowley appeared for the complainant Company, and the cases were remanded.

Among the killed in the casualty lists published at the end of March appear the names of Lieut. A. W. Batson, and Lieut. W. G. Rawlinson of the Duke of Connaught's Light Infantry; and the name of Captain H. N. B. Harrison, D.C.I.L., is in the list of those who died of wounds.

On St. George's Day the Shanghai branch of the Royal Society of St. George despatched appropriate greetings by telegram to, and received replies from, the following:—Royal Society of St. George, London, the Society's Tientsin, Kobe and Yokohama branches; Field Marshal Earl Kitchener, Field Marshal Sir John French and Admiral Sir John Jellicoe.

The amount realised at the repeat performance of the variety entertainment in the Catholic Union Hall on Saturday was \$270, which, together with the sum of \$300 collected at the first entertainment, has been handed over to charities. The organisers desire to thank the officers of the Chinese Customs cruiser Kaipan for loan of flags, and the Bijou and Victoria Cinematograph Theatres for limelight apparatus.

Major-General F. H. Kelly, C.B., took up his residence yesterday at No. 77, Mount Kellett, The Peak, the house lately occupied by Commander Basil Taylor, R.N. For the convenience of callers the visiting book will still remain in the Guard Room at the entrance to Head Quarters House in Victoria. There will be an additional book for visitors at the Mount Kellett house. The civil telephone No. will be 25 at present, 220; the military No. will be 64.

Major Dopping-Hepensal, of the 1st Gurkhas, who will be remembered in Hongkong, was wounded in action at the end of March.

The latest list of donations to the Hongkong Cigarette and Tobacco Fund for the Allied Forces at the Front brings the total contributions up to \$4,842.91, of which \$4,328.87 has been spent in the purchase of 905,000 cigarettes and 2,580 lbs. of plug tobacco. In acknowledging the donation of \$352 from the Howitt-Phillips Company (half the proceeds of the Company's last performance in Hongkong), the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Fund (Mr. G. J. B. Sayer) says that the brave fellows at the Front and in the trenches will be informed of their kindness, which will enable the Committee to forward a further consignment.

The Chinese Government has sent a memorandum to the Political Conference, embodying a proposal for the creation of the post of Inspector of Conservancy Affairs. In the days of the Manchu régime, there was such an official whose chief duty it was to look after the conservancy affairs of the Yellow River. According to the Government's plan, the new Conservancy Inspector should have a wider scope of duty. He will be responsible for the conservancy affairs not only of the Yellow River but also those of its tributaries. After the inauguration of this post, the Government will also appoint the Governors of Chihli, Shantung, Hunan, Shansi, Shensi, etc., concurrently co-directors of the conservancy affairs in connection with the Yellow River and its tributaries.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

The Sun Co., Ltd. \$25
Chor Chong 20
J. A. Young 10
Wing Loong Co., Ltd. 10
Wing Sang Co. 10
Heung On Insurance Co., Ltd. 10
Wong Kook Sui 10
Comptroller, W. G. Humphreys & Co. 10
Hongkong Trading Co. 10
Woo Lam Tin 10
Lo Pun 5
Chan Tak Chi 5
The Great Eastern Studio 5

The "Quaints" have had an excellent season at Shanghai. On the last night of their stay they gave a special performance to the members of the Shanghai Volunteer Corps. The Lyceum Theatre was crowded to its utmost capacity. Before the final curtain fell, says the Mercury, someone in the audience caused an outbreak of laughter by presenting Mr. Salisbury with an Iron Cross, which was humorously acknowledged. Tremendous enthusiasm ensued when the last item of the evening was concluded, the whole Company being recalled when "Should and acquaintance be forgot" was sung. The "Quaints" at the request of Mr. Salisbury, called for three cheers for the residents of Shanghai, which naturally were heartily reciprocated. Before the house finally broke up Mr. Salisbury was prevailed upon to make a speech. This he did in a few appropriate words, in which he thanked the community for their kind support and hospitality, and asked for a similar recognition should they make another visit. This was readily promised, the audience singing "For they are jolly good fellows."

Correspondence.

INOCULATION AGAINST PLAGUE.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS"]

Sir,—In the "Suntow News" of 26th ult., published in your to-day's issue, the Correspondent invites a statement on the question "as to how long one inoculation is supposed to hold off the danger of plague infection." The following refers to the subject.

In India the result appeared to vary with the race of the individual. The annual plague reports issued by the Panjab Council (Communal Council) of Bombay pointed to protection being still observable in that community five years after inoculation, but the degree of it was gradually weakening. In Europeans the effect seems to last longer. No special data are available regarding persons of Chinese extraction; so, in the event of a bad outbreak in a locality, re-inoculation would, I think, be advisable in individuals operated on more than a year before.

All information obtained in India is, however, based on investigation of the bacillic form of the disease. Primary Plague pneumonia has not occurred there in numbers large enough to render a study of protective inoculation against that form possible. It is thinkable that in epidemics of this nature the prophylactic in use in India may have different effects, or may require, or be improved upon by, certain modifications. At the time of the great Manchurian outbreak some correspondence on the subject took place between the Indian Government and the Government of China (through the Foreign Office in London, believe), but the outbreak subsided before a study of the matter in China could be organised—I am, Sir, Your obedient servant.

W. M. HAFKINE,
Passenger on the S.S. Mongolia.
Hongkong, 3rd May, 1915.

THE WAR.

GERMAN "FRIGHTFULNESS."

AND BRITISH MAGNANIMITY.

A CONTRAST IN METHODS.

DRINK EVIL AND EQUIPMENT OF FLEET.

ADMIRAL SIR JOHN JELlicoe's UNEASINESS.

FRENCH BOMBARDING METZ.

NAVAL ACTIVITIES.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

NAVAL ACTION IN NORTH SEA.

TWO GERMAN TORPEDO BOATS SUNK.

BRITISH DESTROYER TORPEDOED.

LONDON, May 2nd.

The Admiralty announces that a series of small affairs occurred in the vicinity of the Galloper and North Hinder Lightships on Saturday.

The destroyer *Recruit* was sunk by a submarine, and two German torpedo-boats were chased and sunk by a division of British destroyers after a brief running fight.

The German torpedo-boats had previously torpedoed and sunk the trawler *Columbia*, of whose crew only one deck-hand was rescued. This man was picked up by another trawler. The torpedo-boats were chased by the destroyers *Lafarey*, *Leonidas*, *Lawford*, and *Lark*, and sunk in about an hour. The British destroyers suffered no casualties.

Two German officers and 41 men were rescued and taken prisoners. Four officers and 21 men of the *Recruit* were saved.

An Ipswich telegram says the *Recruit* endeavoured to ram the submarine, which appeared suddenly, but she was torpedoed amidships.

A trawler named the *Daisy* hurried up and rescued 30 of the crew. A torpedo was aimed at the *Daisy*, but it missed. The *Daisy* left a boat for the rescued men, who rowed off, but were attacked by a submarine and four of the occupants were wounded.

A Division of British destroyers came up and two chased the German torpedo-boats while the others kept a look-out for submarines.

The German torpedo-boats were quickly finished, and the British lowered boats and rescued the survivors.

GERMAN DESTROYERS ATTACK TRAWLERS.

LONDON, May 3rd.

The trawler *Barbados* arrived at Yarmouth in a damaged condition and with the Captain wounded as the result of an encounter with a German torpedo-boat destroyer off the Belgian coast.

The *Barbados* brought the sole survivor of a crew of seventeen belonging to the *Columbia* which had been torpedoed; also a German bluejacket.

The *Barbados* used two small guns to resist the torpedo-boat.

[The lost British destroyer *Recruit* was one of the older class. She was of 350 tons, and carried one 12-pounder and five 6-pounder guns.

The *Lafarey*, *Leonidas*, *Lawford* and *Lark* were of the modern "L" class. They are of 965 tons, and carry three 4-inch guns.]

[HAWAS SERVICE.]

LAUNCH OF A FRENCH DREADNOUGHT.

PARIS, May 1st.

A French Dreadnought has been successfully launched at Bordeaux, in the presence of the Secretary for Marine, M. Anguier. The new Dreadnought is to bear the name of *Languedoc*, which is the name of an old French province.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SUBMARINE ACTIVITY.

SEVERAL SHIPS TORPEDOED.

LONDON, May 3rd.

A French steamship, the *Europe*, was torpedoed and sunk off the Scilly Isles on Saturday. The crew of eighteen were rescued.

The crew of the *Europe* were squeezed into a small boat. A submarine shelled the steamer ineffectively. A Lowestoft trawler came up and rescued the crew though pursued by the submarine, three of whose shells fell round the rescuing trawler. The submarine eventually torpedoed the *Europe*.

Five fishing boats discovered an American tank steamer, the *Gulf Light*, abandoned near the Scilly Isles on Saturday, and towed her all night in a thick fog to Scilly. The crew had been rescued by patrol boats, with the exception of the Captain, who had died from shock, and two men, who jumped overboard.

A trawler has brought to Kilrush nine survivors of the steamer *Fulgent* which was torpedoed off Skelligis, Kerry, on Saturday, and also the body of the Captain, who was shot. The remainder of the crew are missing.

New York, May 3rd.

The torpedoing of the *Gulf Light* by a German submarine, and the loss of the Captain and two of the crew has created a profound stir in official circles. The newspapers sternly demand the firmest measures.

FRANCO-BELGIAN FRONT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

SECOND BATTLE OF YPRES.

STRONG ALLIED COUNTER-ATTACK TURNS THE TIDE.

LONDON, May 3rd.

Eye-Witness at British Headquarters, in a despatch on the 30th April, says that a strong Anglo-French counter-attack on the morning of the 28th along the whole line from Steenstrate to the east of St. Julien, accompanied by a violent bombardment, marked the turning-point in the battle of Ypres, definitely checking the enemy's offensive, and gaining some ground.

Guns concentrated on both sides poured in a great volume of fire. The British infantry on the Right stormed the trenches close to St. Julien, and gained the southern outskirts of the village. Several trenches to the west of the village were also captured, representing an advance of 700 yards, but the enemy's extensive use of gas and machine-guns caused a retirement at certain points.

In the meantime the French recaptured Lizerne, and progressed along the west bank of the Canal. The losses on both sides were heavy, the fighting being largely open. Our artillery had an excellent mark in the German close formations.

A general counter-attack on the afternoon of the 27th ult. enabled us to progress for an hour, but the Germans clung stubbornly to their positions, using gas. The situation at nightfall was much the same. There was a complete lull on the 28th ult., the enemy being apparently exhausted. Elsewhere nothing important occurred.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

FRENCH BOMBARDING PORTS NEAR METZ.

LONDON, May 2nd.

Yesterday the French bombarded the ports on the southern front of the entrenched camp at Metz.

SITUATION UNCHANGED.

PARIS, May 2nd.

To-day's *communiqué* says:—The situation along the whole front is unchanged.

NOVEL GERMAN WAR WEAPONS.

PARIS, May 3rd.

The evening *communiqué* states: North of Ypres an attempted German attack on our right was immediately checked. There is nothing new to report on the British front.

At Maucourt, in south Chaulnes, eighty Germans, armed with shovels, hand grenades, Brownings, and knives attacked. Most of them were killed, and some were captured. In the valley of the Aisne and in Champagne the enemy used various appliances, which were ineffective, namely, glass tubes which upon breaking diffused an odour of other, incendiary bombs and gases emitting greenish smoke. The latter hung over the enemy's lines.

German counter-attacks in Bois-le-Prete were immediately arrested, and here we retain the whole of yesterday's gain.

We have continued to bombard the southern entrenched camp at Metz in a most effective manner. Fire was noticed at the barracks and on the railway.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF DUNKIRK.

AN EXPLANATION.

LONDON, May 2nd.

The French Embassy announces that a German deserter reports that Kropp's engineers have been busy for the past two months mounting a long-range naval gun near Dixmude.

This is believed to be the gun which has bombarded Dunkirk, firing a range of 21 miles.

Only nine shells were fired in the second and third bombardment, and it is believed that the gun has been damaged either by its own fire or the activity of French aviators in the neighbourhood.

RUSSIAN FRONT.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

GENERAL ACTIVITY.

PETROGRAD, May 3rd.

An official *communiqué* states: Enemy detachments occupy the Shawle region, between Libau and Vilna. German petrols appeared on Saturday in the vicinity of Libau, and German torpedo-boats on Saturday visited the Gulf of Riga.

Fighting continues west of the Niemen. A strong Austrian offensive in the region of Czernowice was checked. Austro-German attacks in the Carpathians were also repulsed.

GENERAL.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

LABOUR DIFFICULTIES ON THE CLYDE AND TYNE.

ADMIRAL JELlicoe's UNEASINESS.

LONDON, May 3rd.

A White Paper has been published which shows that Admiral Sir John Jellicoe wrote to the First Lord of the Admiralty on March 26th, expressing great uneasiness with regard to the labour situation on the Clyde and the Tyne. The efficiency of the Fleet was so affected that he had previously felt it his duty to telegraph on the subject. The docking and refits of destroyers took twice as long as they ought owing to labour difficulties due to half-hearted working.

Rear-Admiral Tudor (Third Sea Lord) in a report on April 2nd enclosed recommendations by the Captains Superintendent of the Clyde, the Tyne, and elsewhere, and by Directors of Transports and Naval Equipment that the prohibition of the sale of spirits was necessary in order to secure a full output.

Rear-Admiral Tudor added that partial measures as regards intoxicants were unlikely to prove successful.

[HAWAS SERVICE.]

A DEPUTATION FROM FINLAND.

PARIS, May 1st.

A Parliamentary deputation from Finland to Paris to reciprocate in the presence of M. Poincaré and Cardinal Amette the undestructible feelings of love, strengthened by the joint struggle for the triumph of civilization.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

AUSTRALIANS' MEMORABLE ACHIEVEMENTS.

CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES.

LONDON, May 2nd.

The First Lord of the Admiralty (Mr. Winston Churchill) wired congratulating Sir R. Munro Ferguson (Governor-General of Australia) and Lord Liverpool (Governor-General of New Zealand) on the brilliant and memorable achievements of the Australian and New Zealand troops at the Dardanelles.

Sir R. Munro Ferguson replied:—"To win the admiration of a British Tar is an honour worth having."

Lord Liverpool replied:—"It is a source of great gratification to everyone in this Dominion that their troops are so closely connected with the arduous operation with the Royal Navy, to whom the Empire owes so much."

BRITISH CASUALTIES.

LONDON, May 2nd.

Killed:—T. Bainbridge, G. C. Barber, G. Blackett, W. Coulson, G. Eynon, B. Farrell (East Yorks), A. Gorton, S. W. Hitchins, L. P. Anson, L. V. Johnson, Second Lieut. A. Kent (Northumberland Fusiliers), C. Kynoch, A. Little (Durham Light Infantry), W. Marshall, (Durham Light Infantry), E. N. Mather, Major H. Matthews (Yorkshire Regiment), J. T. Monkhouse, H. G. Morris, E. Mortimer, J. Nancarrow, F. O. Nash, B. H. Richardson, Second Lieut. J. Rogers (Durham Light Infantry), R. H. Owen (Duke of Wellingtons), E. L. Rolleston (London Rifle Brigade), G. H. Shaw, C. Theilmann, J. O. Wilson.

Died of wounds:—J. P. Benningfield, E. R. Bowden, Second Lieut. C. Carew (East Yorks), Second Lieut. F. Lydden (Liverpool).

In the Mediterranean—Died of wounds:—E. Fetherstonhaugh.

LONDON, May 3rd.

Casualties dated April 25th include 30 officers killed and 105 wounded and missing. Among the killed are Brigadier General Hasler and Colonels H. W. E. Hitchins (Manchester), and G. H. Shaw (4th East Yorks). Ninety-one are Territorial officers.

[FROM MANILA PAPERS.]

BACK TO THE BRITISH FLAG.

WASHINGTON, April 25th.

Captain Robert Dollar, the head of the steamship line bearing his name, has announced that his entire fleet of freighters will go back to British registry. Advice to this effect were received here yesterday.

In a public statement just made Captain Dollar stated that the effect of the La Follette Seamen's Bill was to make a present of the Pacific trade to Japan. So far as he was concerned, he declared, his steamers would again be placed under the British flag.

THE DARDANELLES OPERATIONS.

The joint statement issued by the War Office and the Admiralty regarding the operations at the Dardanelles (published in a Reuter's message yesterday) concluded with the intimation which Reuter omitted to transmit, viz.: that "the next phase of the operations will be dealt with when complete, and not in daily *communiqués*."

An aeroplane factory in Tokyo, has just turned out a number of aeroplanes of the Tsuzuki system for the Chinese Government, says the *Japan Chronicle*. On April 21st a trial flight of the new machine was carried out in the factory compound, in the presence of Mr. Liu, Chinese Minister in Tokyo, and members of the Chinese Legation staff. This is the first Japan-made aeroplane to be exported abroad.

CHINESE TELEGRAMS.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

CHINA'S REPLY TO JAPAN'S DEMANDS.

JAPAN DISAPPOINTED.

PEKING, May 2nd.

The Chinese Note in reply to Japan's revised demands was presented on Saturday.

It reviews the negotiations and sets forth the concessions made from time to time in response to Japanese pressure, and it submits counter-proposals.

With regard to Japan's twenty-four revised demands, China offers to agree to recognise the transfer to Japan of the German rights in Shantung, provided the *status quo* is restored.

The Japanese Ambassador said he understood that China had withdrawn this proposal. If persisted in, he must withdraw his recent offer for the restoration of Tsingtau.

Respecting Manchuria, China agreed to certain alterations in the phraseology of the demands. China agreed to open a number of ports (trade centres) in Mongolia, and to give the Japanese the preference in the matter of railway loans; also to give them the preference in the case of loans for which local taxes are offered as security. The Note omits reference to Japan's demand for the right to engage in forming and manufacturing enterprises.

Regarding the Hanyehping demands, China accepts the principle of co-operation.

The Note repeats that the demands affecting the Province of Fukien must be treated separately, and, with regard to the railway concessions Japan seeks, it is stated that these form the subject of a definite agreement with the British.

Mr. Lin, the Chinese negotiator, intimated that these were the maximum concessions which the Chinese Government were prepared to make.

Mr. Hioki, the Japanese Ambassador, said he was very sorry the Japanese Government would be disappointed.

No reference was made to further conferences.

PAMPERING PRISONERS.

ONE MILLION A YEAR FOR HUN PRISON SHIPS.

The British public will read with something verging upon stupefaction Dr. Macnamara's admission that £26,000 a month (or £312,000 a year) is being paid for the hire of ships in which to intern German prisoners. At a time when the scarcity of shipping is sending up the cost of every necessity here, the British Government takes a large tonnage off the freight market to house the Hun. If the Hague Conventions—which the Germans have studiously disregarded—forbid the use of criminal prisons, many of our work houses are half-empty and might have been utilised for this service. But for some mysterious reasons the Government seems determined to spare no expense on its prisoners. Country houses are taken over and redrafted and fitted with electric light and every convenience in their behalf. The conditions in our prison camps are super-excellent. This would be all very well if the enemy treated the unhappy British officers and men who have fallen into his hands in the same way. Unfortunately, we know only too well that he does not.

We wish to see our captives dealt with according to the best traditions of British humanity and decency. But there should be some approach to reciprocity. In many of the German prisons British soldiers are not permitted to receive or buy tobacco, fruit, and tinned food. The only method of improving these unnecessary and capricious restrictions is for the British Government to withdraw from German prisoners in this country the privilege of reading German books and smoking until the German rules are relaxed. There is no need for such action as the British prisoners in Germany are being starved of food in a manner which is ruinous to their health. The Germans will neither issue a sufficient ration nor, in certain camps, allow prisoners to purchase or receive eatables. The conduct of our Government in failing to obtain accurate and authoritative information as to the treatment of British prisoners in Germany is not understood in this country and is bitterly resented in Germany. It is almost as unintelligible as the coddling of the Hun and the glorification of such dangerous enemies as Werner von Ow-Wachendorf.

THE TERRITORIALS' ENTERTAINMENT FUND.

A meeting of several of those interested in the proposal for showing some little hospitality to the Territorials who are now in our midst was held on Friday evening, and it was provisionally decided to arrange for the men to go to a cinematograph entertainment once each fortnight and to entertain them at a smoking concert on alternate weeks. It will be remembered that an offer was sent to this paper by one of the local cinemas to admit the men for 20 cents each, but, in addition to that, of course, their return railway fares from and to the Peak will cost another 20 cents a head. At the smoking concerts refreshments and cigarettes will be provided, and in this connection it may be mentioned that the British and American Tobacco Co., Ltd., have generously intimated their willingness to contribute 3,000 cigarettes for the first concert and to furnish subsequent supplies at reduced rates. An account has been opened at the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank in the name of the Territorial Entertainment Fund, and Major Hawkins, Commandant of the Shropshires, has consented to act as treasurer, while Messrs. R. P. Thurstfield and G. S. Archibald have undertaken the duties of joint hon. secretaries. The Fund up to date amounts to £920. During the present week subscription lists will be issued, but in the meantime we shall be happy to continue to receive any contributions which our readers may feel disposed to make in token of their appreciation of the patriotism of the men who have placed the call of their King and Country before all else. At a modest estimate at least \$500 a month will be required to carry out the programme outlined above and to provide the men with footballs, materials for writing home, etc. Amount previously acknowledged \$405 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gould 25

TERRITORIALS AND THEIR EASTERN PAY.

"SHIRT SOLD FOR FOOD."

Remarkable complaints regarding the position of Territorials in India were made in the House of Lords recently. Lord Crewe, in reply to Lord Harris, said the pay Territorial officers serving in India was the same as that of officers with the Regulars, with the simple exception that there was a slight balance in favour of Territorial officers serving with the R. A. M. C.

The pay of privates with the Territorials in India, he added, was also the same as that of the Regulars—a shilling a day, and the deductions were the same in both cases.

Lord Selborne said many letters had been sent by Territorials from his county who were serving in India, complaining that they were much worse paid than they were at home.

"Some of them asked their parents to send them money in order to enable them to live properly," Lord Selborne declared. "One had sold his shirt and boots in order to obtain food. Lord Crewe promised to have the matter inquired into, and Lord Lansdowne expressed pleasure at this promise. "The Territorials," said Lord Lansdowne, "have produced a splendid impression in India by their appearance and behaviour."

K A M (No. 6.) K A M

SHANGHAI RACES.

We are indebted to the Jockey Club for the following results of the first day of the Shanghai Race meeting, yesterday:—

- 1.—PAPER HUNTERS' CUP, 3 mile. Mr. Ezra's Rosewood (Johnstone)..... 1 Mr. Demet's Moratorium (Hill)..... 2 Mr. Grayland's Claremont (Rowe)..... 3 Time, 1:28 4-5.
- 2.—CRITERION STAKES, 1 mile. Mr. Lamerton's Bonito (Rowe)..... 1 Mr. Elms' Moana (Hill)..... 2 Mr. Morris' Castfield (Stewart)..... 3 Time, 2:04 2-5.
- 3.—THE GRIFFIN'S PLATE, 3 mile. Mr. Evelyn's Sir Derek (Heard)..... 1 Mr. Robson's Peace (Burkill)..... 2 Mr. Thomson's Roland (Moller)..... 3 Time, 1:39 1-5.
- 4.—THE CATHAY CUP, 13 mile. Mr. Durgor's Concepcion (C. R. Burkill)..... 1 Mr. Jackson's Suffolk (Vida)..... 2 Mr. Ezra's Neptune (T. Ezra)..... 3 Time, 3:11 4-5.
- 5.—THE POT-MA-TING CUP, 1 mile. Mr. Evelyn's Sir Victor (Heard)..... 1 Mr. Durgor's Bazar (Burkill)..... 2 Winsome and Hasty's Buzzard (Hill)..... 3 Time, 2:07 4-5.
- 6.—THE HART-LEIGH CUP, 4 mile. Sir Paul's Coronet (Burkill)..... 1 Mr. Kadoorie's Durbar Chief (Vida)..... 2 Mr. Elms' Maha-ma (Heard)..... 3 Time, 5:15 1-5.
- 7.—THE JOCKEY CUP, 1 mile. Mr. Evelyn's Sir Nigel (Grayrigg)..... 1 Mr. Uto's Nomadic (Selech)..... 2 Mr. Ezra's Gamester (J. I. Ezra)..... 3 Time, 2:04 3-5.
- 8.—THE KIANSON CUP, 13 mile. Mr. Lamerton's Marengo (Rowe)..... 1 Mr. Morris' Cornfield (Stewart)..... 2 B. P. Kongs' Gay Bird (Bremen)..... 3 Time, 3:44.
- 9.—THE ECLIPSE STAKES, 11 mile. Mr. Morris' Beaconsfield (Stewart)..... 1 Mr. Morris' Homefold (Burkill)..... 2 Mr. Elms' Freddie (Vida)..... 3 Time, 2:39 2-5.
- 10.—THE CHIMEL CUP, 13 mile. Mr. Jeremia's Blazon (Wuilleumier)..... 1 Mr. Fay's Historic (Orington)..... 2 Mr. John Peel's Special Request (Johnstone)..... 3 Time, 2:37 2-5.

THE WAGES OF OUR COLOSSAL ARMY.

HEROIC WORK OF THE PAY DEPARTMENT.

When the war commenced the Army Pay Department employed 180 officers and 900 clerks. To-day it employs nearly 700 officers and between 6,000 and 7,000 clerks.

All this new staff have had to be trained in the intricate and technical work of Army pay accountancy. That training devolved upon the pre-existing 180 officers and 900 clerks. At the same time they had themselves to master all the new Army pay conditions created by Parliament and cope with the enormous expansion of their regular work.

The mere raising of the new staff at a time when all male labour was drained by enlistment was a matter of great difficulty. "We got them where we could," said an officer of the Army Pay Department. "The great majority, of course, were clerks, accustomed to figures, but entirely new to Army accountancy. Many, again, were men of means and position who have stepped into the work out of patriotism. The training of such a great number by a small number of experts versed in Army accountancy was a great difficulty, but we were greatly helped by the zeal, intelligence, and devotion of all the new men."

Accommodation was one of the first troubles. Here was a closely organised Government Department suddenly swollen to six times its personnel. The London District Pay Office has twice migrated since the outbreak of war to larger offices; the Woolwich office alone has had to take eight or nine private houses for its staff. For weeks the whole Army pay organisation worked literally day and night. Only by the heroic efforts of the various paymasters and their clerks was the situation handled, and in their office lights burned far into the night and Sundays were as week days.

SEPARATION ALLOWANCES.

Foremost among the earlier difficulties of the Army Pay Department were the shifting changes of conditions caused by parliamentary alteration and reallocation of rates of allowances and separation allowances to soldiers' families and dependents. Outstanding alterations were the increases of separation allowances and the inclusion of dependents previously debarred. No sooner had one schedule of payments been prepared than an Army Order came reversing and extending the whole conditions. The public were bewildered by the changes, and great trouble was caused. The soldiers' wives and dependents, who had been told that the Army Pay Department would be their ally, were now being told that they were the enemy. Their complaints, reasonable or otherwise—and in the tremendous pressure upon the Department delays were unavoidable—were taken up by responsible people. "With all the will in the world it was impossible to provide for the Army Pay Department," they became unpopular. It was little realised by some of its attackers how the staff of that Department was toiling. One humorist who realised it broke into verse, a parody of the "Charge of the Light Brigade"; here is one of his stanzas:—

Pay-lists to right of them,
Pay-lists to left of them,
Pay-list in front of them,
Ever increasing,
Sworn at by Press and wives
(Crouching for all their lives),
Dependents and others.
Only the fittest survives
Of those six hundred.

Or, as another humorist, employed in the Pay Department itself, is reported to have bitterly observed, "First it was the wife, then it was the unmarried wife, now it's the aunt—we shall have the next-door neighbour on to us next week."

Grumblers and humorists alike have relapsed into silence, and the Army Pay Department—rising wonderfully to a crisis and strain beyond all parallel or precedent in a Government Department, or for the matter of that, in any private business or undertaking—is to-day, one must imagine, not the least popular, but the most popular of all Government Departments.

PAY AT THE FRONT.

The soldier receives his pay, if he wishes it, not only at the front but in the trenches. The cash, in French currency notes, is issued by his company officer in the field, and is accounted for on "acquittance" rolls. The system of Army pay is based on fixed centres. A private in the Hampshire Regiment, for instance, has his record office and pay office at Exeter. Wherever he is serving, except in the Colonies, his accounts filter through Exeter, the paymaster there debits his account with the cash, and also compiles the pay list and transmits it to the local auditor, where these accounts are eventually audited.

Every soldier carries his pay-book right through the war. As far as possible he is paid weekly. Men in the advanced trenches draw their money almost as if they were in barracks at home and, in some way or other, they manage to spend it. Each payment is entered at the time in the pay-book. Should the soldier fall in action, or die of wounds, the book is forwarded to his "fixed centre," paymaster in England. The greatest care is taken that this should be done in every case where men do not fall into the enemy's hands. It is in this knowledge, and this that go with men carry their wills in the pay-book—has.

ANOTHER "SCRAP OF PAPER."

An ordinary piece of paper drafted as a cheque for £3, drawn on Coutts' Bank and signed by a British soldier in a German prison camp, was received recently by the Rev. Arthur Taylor, secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society. Telling the story, Mr. Taylor said that the men were so pleased with books sent out by the Society that they made a collection among themselves, and one who had an account at the bank drew out and signed the strange cheque, which had been duly honoured.

THE KIEL CANAL.

RUSSIAN ENGINEER DESCRIBES DANGEROUS BRIDGES.

So much has been written and spoken about the importance of the Kiel Canal, so-persuaded have the general public become about the total impossibility of launching an attack against it, that the recent declaration by Professor L. P. Shishko, one of Russia's greatest engineering authorities and a man who had the opportunity of examining the construction and defences of the Canal at first hand only last year, have created a sensation.

Thoroughly understanding the strategic importance of the Canal, he says, the Germans guarded as a sacred mystery everything appertaining to it. Since 1894 no book or article dealing with the Kiel Canal has appeared in the military literature. But, thanks to a lucky chance, I had the opportunity of examining thoroughly both the Canal and its outer buildings in 1914, although under peculiar conditions, for I was not permitted to have pen or pencil with me, nor a camera. Only in the evening, having returned to my hotel, was I able to register my impressions and make some drawings from memory.

The construction of the Kiel Canal was really begun in the eighteenth century. In 1785 the Eider Canal, which joined the River Eider with the port of Kiel, was finished. This Canal was but 7.5 metres in width and but 3 metres deep, and was intended for ships of commerce only. The work on the present Kiel Canal was commenced in 1886, and finished in 1894. The cost reached a total of 157 million marks, and as a result there was a Canal 22 metres wide, and 9 metres deep. The Canal starts at the mouth of the River Eider, near the city of Brunsbüttel, and ends near the town of Choltenau. At both ends there is a double system of locks.

In 1912 the German Government commenced the work of still further widening the Canal, and this work was not finished at the time of my visit, that is, about six months before the outbreak of the war. As the Canal was intended for the use of the largest ships of the German navy, its width was brought to 44 metres, and its depth to 11 metres.

The change in the Canal's dimensions was hurried to such an extent that no time was allowed for a corresponding change in its defences, particularly so in the bridges, and in consequence the latter, deprived of their supports, began to show a very noticeable settling down. The measures taken by the engineers to counteract this proved of no avail, as I saw in examining the bridge near Loewensau, where the shaky condition of the bridge menaced the navigation in the Canal.

The possibility of this bridge giving way suddenly is so evident that it is not risk placing their fighting ships beyond the bridge towards Kiel, for in this case they would court the danger of being completely cut off from their Western base.

I had occasion to watch the work itself, and the hurried way in which it was performed, particularly in regard to the foundations, was even then apparently giving cause for anxiety to the German engineers. As a result, many of the bridges were closed to traffic, for the fear was ever present that they would collapse without warning.

Judging from the purely military point of view, the canal is no less unsatisfactory. All the bridges and all the crossings over the Canal are unprotected by any covering, and in case of an attack by an aerial fleet of the enemy they can be easily destroyed, and in falling down would make navigation out of the question.

Only in 1914 did the Germans build underground tunnels under the Canal. These tunnels are very important, for they cannot be attacked by an enemy, and thus troops can be easily transferred from one side of the Canal to the other. I visited these tunnels. They are built fourteen metres below the water, and are wide enough to permit a column of six abreast to march through them without any inconvenience. The construction is entirely of cement. The tunnels are provided with side chambers for the storage of ammunition. During my visit they were as yet empty, though, of course, it is different at present.

The German engineers with whom I spoke openly admitted the faulty construction of the bridges, etc., but pointed out that they were simply the executors of the orders of higher authorities.

In conclusion, I may state with assurance that in its present state the Kiel Canal is so badly built that to put it into a condition that would answer to the demands of modern engineering at least four years' work would be required, involving an expenditure of several hundred million marks.

THE DANGER ZONE IN THE DARDANELLES.

Sir Edwin Pears, who has lived for over thirty years in Constantinople, and is the most authoritative Western writer on Turkish affairs, thus describes the danger zone in the Dardanelles:—

About 14 miles from the entrance to the Straits the channel narrows and is less than two miles broad. Chanak, the chief town or village on the Straits, is at the narrowest part, and on the Asiatic shore. Three and a half miles north of it is a cape known as Nagara Point, around which at right angles the current runs from the Marmora. Take this three and a half miles as a base, note the width at the Narrows, fix a triangle greater width at Nagara Point, and a parallelogram is obtained. This is the chief danger zone. Any ship attempting to pass upwards is exposed to all the batteries on each side of the Straits, there being at least six. Moreover, the water is thickly strewn with contact mines. To silence all these batteries and clear away the mines is a difficult task. That it will be accomplished no one doubts. But we are sure to have a host of foolish telegrams which ought to be discarded, and progress cannot be rapid. Once this danger zone is passed, a five-and-twenty miles careful run to Gallipoli brings the Fleet into the Marmora.

PRISONERS FROM SUBMARINES.

A BERLIN THREAT.

COMPLETE REPLY BY SIR E. GREY.

The Foreign Office on the 2nd ult. communicated to the Press the following Notes:—

(1) The American Ambassador presents his compliments to His Majesty's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour, under instructions from the Secretary of State at Washington, to transmit, hereto annexed, the text of a telegram, dated March 17, which Mr. Bryan has received from the German Foreign Office through the Embassy at Berlin:—

According to notices appearing in the British Press, the British Admiralty is said to have made known its intention not to accord to officers and crews of German submarines who have become prisoners, the treatment due to prisoners of war, especially not to concede to the officers the advantage of their rank.

The German Government is of the opinion that these reports are not correct, and in doing this have solely fulfilled their military duties. At any rate, the reports in question have become so numerous in the neutral Press that an immediate explanation of the true facts appears to be of most urgent importance, if for no other reasons than consideration of public opinion in Germany.

The Imperial Foreign Office therefore requests the American Embassy to have inquiry of the British Government made by telegraph through the medium of the American Embassy at London as to whether and in what way they intend to treat officers and crews of German submarine boats who have been made prisoners in any respect worse than other prisoners of war. Should this prove to be the case, the request is added that in the name of the German Government sharpest protest be lodged with the British Government against such proceedings, and that no doubt be left that for each member of the crew of a submarine made prisoner a British Army officer held prisoner of war in Germany will receive corresponding harsher treatment. The Imperial Foreign Office would be grateful for information of the earliest convenience regarding the result of the steps taken.

American Embassy, London, March 20, 1915.

(2) The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to the United States Ambassador, and with reference to his Excellency's note of the 20th ultimo respecting reports in the Press upon the treatment of prisoners from German submarines, has the honour to state that he learns from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the officers and men who were rescued from the German submarines U 8 and U 12 have been placed in the Naval Detention Barracks in view of the necessity of the earliest convenience regarding the result of the steps taken.

His Majesty's Government would also bring to the notice of the United States Government that during the present war more than 1,000 officers and men of the German Navy have been rescued from the sea, sometimes in spite of danger to the rescuers, and sometimes in the presence of British naval operations. No case has, however, occurred of any officer or man of the Royal Navy being rescued by the Germans.

Foreign Office, April 1, 1915.

SHANGHAI TRADE.

Messrs. Ilbert & Co.'s Piece Goods Market Report says:—

Manufacturers in Lancashire have exhibited great strength recently, and the rise in cost of replacement, together with the fact that the diminishing amount of stock held in this market is now beginning to make itself felt in some classes of goods, have been factors which have contributed considerably "tone" to our market. The amount of business passing has not been large, but it has been fair, and clearances are continuing upon a moderate scale.

The principal stumbling-block in the path of an enquiry commensurate with the agricultural prosperity throughout most of the country, is the Japanese demands that are being discussed in Peking. While the present state of general uneasiness exists in the minds of the Chinese regarding them, the native banks keep their operations with their merchant-clients restricted to a strictly cash basis. Political unrest in one form and another has in fact cast its shadow over this market for so long periods and so many recent years, that absence of credit facilities amongst native traders for the carrying on of commerce is becoming almost an accustomed state. Although, however, trade may be, and is kept going in much the same bulk year by year throughout the last decade and a half, the business done in comparison to the huge population and industry of the country is but a mere surface scratch. The evidences of development of trade are insignificant, and it may possibly be with the object of prodding China's lethargy that the Japanese demands have been formulated, but the door must be kept wide enough open to admit other countries on an equal footing of opportunity.

The Linotype Company, the Gramophone Company, motor-car companies, Chubb's famous firm for making safes, and locks, and other companies, to-day are working for the British War Office, and are producing guns or shells instead of printing or musical machines, or motors or locks.

SHIPPING IN PORT.

CHANGHONG, British str., 1,203 G. Mores, 28th April—Bangkok 18th April, General—Butterfield & Swire.

CHIAN MARU, Japanese str., 1,100, Oka, 27th April—Hongkong 24th April, Coal—Order.

CHUNGKING, British str., 1,011, Rees Lewis, 19th April—Swatow—14th April—Butterfield & Swire.

DAIYU MARU, Japanese str., 890, K. Murakami, 28th April—Swatow 27th April, General—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

DAIYU MARU, Japanese str., 2,750, Y. Goto, 17th April—Wakamatsu 11th April, Coal—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

FEICHING, Chinese str., 979, A. B. Buins, 1st May—Shanghai 27th April, General—Chinese.

FUKU MARU, Japanese str., 3,500, H. Cheshaki, 30th April—Mojji 23rd April, Coal—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

HAIYANG, British str., 1,303, A. E. Hodgkin, 1st May—Amoy 30th April, General—Douglas Laiprak & Co.

HANGKONG, British str., 1,359, S. Wilde, 28th April—Saigon 23rd April, Rice—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

HIND, Norwegian str., 720, G. Jensen, 28th April—Bangkok 18th April, Rice—Chinese.

HONGKONG, French str., 739, A. Marguerite, 1st May—Haiphong via Fort Bayard 28th April, General—A. R. Marty.

HONG BAZ, British str., 3,005, Ogden, 14th April—Singapore 8th April, General—Chinese.

KARO, Chinese str., 991, Hogg, 21st April—Singapore and Saigon 14th April, Rice—Chinese.

KASHING, British str., 1,143, G. Byers, 2nd May—Saigon 27th April, Rice—Butterfield & Swire.

LUENOW, British str., 1,321, J. Menthell, 1st May—Shanghai 28th April, General—Butterfield & Swire.

MONGOLIA, American str., 3,750, Emery Rice, 23rd April—San Francisco 27th March, General—Pacific Mail S.S. Co.

PHANANG, British str., 1,022, H. Flashman, 30th April—Bangkok 22nd April, Rice—Chinese.

SHINYO MARU, Japanese str., 7,228, Wm. C. T. S. Filmer, 30th April—San Francisco April 3rd, General—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

TAISHUN, Chinese str., 1,300, Westerlund, 28th April—Shanghai 24th April, General—Chinese.

TAKSANG, British str., 977, R. A. Nethens, 27th April—Shanghai 23rd April, General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

TAIYUAN, British str., 2,000, P. W. Grieson, 21st April—Sydney 23rd March, General—Butterfield & Swire.

TAITO MARU, Japanese str., 1,930, T. Furumoto, 30th April—Dairen 23rd April, General and Coal—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

TAIYU MARU, Japanese str., 2,127, Y. Noguchi, 30th April—Dairen 23rd April, Coal—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

TEAR, British str., 1,303, Mills, 30th April—Manila 27th April, General—Butterfield & Swire.

TELEMACHUS, British str., 1,350, A. Fraser, 1st May—Saigon 20th April, Rice—Chinese.

TSINGTAI MARU, Japanese str., 1,629, K. Tanaka, 28th April—Chingwang 19th April, Coal—Doddwell & Co.

TSIMANOK, Dutch str., 3,510, A. W. La Kory, 20th April—Batavia, General—Java-China-Japan Lijn.

TUJIWONG, Dutch str., 3,051, A. Olden, 28th April—Saigon 22nd April, Rice and Wood—Chinese.

TOMI MARU, Japanese str., 2,507, J. Ikeda, 28th April—Vladivostok 20th April, Beans—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

VARO, Norwegian str., 873, J. Jobsen, 30th April—Kinnar 23rd April, Rice and General—Chinese.

WAISHING, British str., 1,272, M. Picknell, 1st May—Bangkok 21st April, Rice and Cattle—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

WIMBLEDON, British str., 2,436, J. Cantoll, 26th April—Chinwanan 19th April, Coal—Doddwell & Co.

YATSHING, British str., 1,423, R. S. Anderson, 2nd May—Singapore 25th April, General and Coal—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

VESSELS EXPECTED.

THE AMERICAN MAIL.
The str. *Persia* sailed from Yokohama on Friday, April 30th, via Manila for Hongkong. The mails have been transferred to the str. *Awa Maru* of the N.Y.K. line, due to arrive at Hongkong May 8th.

THE AUSTRALIAN MAIL.
The E. & A. str. *St. Albans* left Sydney for this port (via Queensland Ports and Manila) on the 21st instant, and may be expected to arrive on or about 14th May.

MERCHANT STEAMER.
The str. *Glenlough* from London is due here on or about Wednesday, the 5th May.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LTD.
Cheonghing, from Wei-hai-wei, is due in Hongkong 6th May.

SHIRE LINE, LIMITED.
Monmouthshire, from London, is due in Hongkong 10th May.
Merionethshire, from London, is due in Hongkong 30th May.

LATEST STEAMER MOVEMENT.

The P. & O. str. *Mulia* left Singapore for this port on the 2nd instant, evening, with the outward English mails, and is due here on the 8th instant, daylight.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

Monday, 10th May—
11.30 a.m.—Canton Insurance Office, Ltd., Meeting of Shareholders.
5.15 p.m.—Hongkong Club Extraordinary General Meeting in the Club House.

ON SALE.

BOUND VOLUMES OF THE HONGKONG WEEKLY PRESS, July to December, 1914. With Index. Price \$7.50.
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